

MINUTES OF THE  
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

March 22, 2010  
MAG Offices, Cholla Room  
302 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Councilwoman Peggy Neely, Chair  
#Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park,  
Vice Chair  
Mayor Hugh Hallman, Tempe, Treasurer

Mayor Marie Lopez Rogers, Avondale  
Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear  
Mayor Scott Smith, Mesa  
\* Mayor Jim Lane, Scottsdale

\* Not present

# Participated by video or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Peggy Neely at 12:00 p.m. She stated that an addendum to the agenda for consent agenda item 3F Amendment to the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Provide Additional Funding to the City of Avondale Park and Ride Selection Study was at their place. Chair Neely stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. Transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Chair Neely noted that, according to the MAG public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards. She stated that there is a three-minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Chair Neely noted that no public comment cards had been received.

3. Consent Agenda

Chair Neely noted that prior to action on the consent agenda, members of the audience are provided an opportunity to comment on consent items that are being presented for action. Following the comment period, Committee members may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Chair Neely noted that no public comment cards had been received.

Chair Neely requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Hallman moved to approve items #3A through #3F. Mayor Cavanaugh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3A. Approval of the February 16, 2010, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes and the February 19, 2010 Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the February 16, 2010, Executive Committee meeting minutes and the February 19, 2010 Special Executive Committee Meeting Minutes.

3B. On-Call Consulting Services for Transportation Software Development and Support

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the list of on-call consultants for area of Expertise A (Transportation Modeling Software and Transportation Forecasting Models): Arizona State University, Bernardin Lochmueller & Associates Inc., Caliper Corporation, Cambridge Systematics Inc., HDR Inc., Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., PB Americas, Inc., URS Corporation, and Wilbur Smith Associates Inc.; and Area of Expertise B (Transportation Data Management Software): Arcadis U.S. Inc., Arizona State University, Caliper Corporation, HDR Inc., Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., Midwestern Software Solutions, PB Americas, Inc., and Terra Genesis Inc., for the MAG Transportation Software Development and Support, for a total amount not to exceed \$700,000. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2009 includes On-call Consulting Services for Transportation Software Development and Support at a cost not to exceed \$700,000. The purpose of the project is to ensure that MAG can proceed with support and scheduled improvements of the MAG regional travel forecasting models and related data sets. MAG issued a Request for Qualifications to create an on-call consulting list for the project with two areas of expertise. A multi-agency evaluation team reviewed the statements of qualifications and recommended to MAG that the following firms be included on a MAG on-call consulting list for Transportation Software Development and Support: Area of Expertise A (Transportation Modeling Software and Transportation Forecasting Models): Arizona State University, Bernardin Lochmueller & Associates Inc., Caliper Corporation, Cambridge Systematics Inc., HDR Inc., Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., PB Americas, Inc., URS Corporation, and Wilbur Smith Associates Inc.; and Area of Expertise B (Transportation Data Management Software): Arcadis U.S. Inc., Arizona State University, Caliper Corporation, HDR Inc., Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc., Midwestern Software Solutions, PB Americas, Inc., and Terra Genesis Inc. On March 10, 2010, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of on-call consulting services for transportation software development and support.

3C. Amendment to the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Include the Southeast Corridor Major Investment Study

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the amendment to the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for \$300,000 to provide for the Southeast Corridor Major Investment Study. The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) is in the process of completing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the widening of Interstate 10, the Maricopa Freeway, between the SR-51/SR-202L/Red Mountain "Mini-Stack" and SR-202L/Santan-South Mountain "Pecos Stack" traffic interchanges. The subject of this EIS is clearance that would allow widening of the freeway and reconstruction of the Interstate 10/SR-143 traffic interchange, representing almost \$1 billion in investment for the corridor. During the

course of the EIS, questions have been raised about the investment being made in this corridor and the need for alternative transportation options. These include widening Interstate 10 and improving system traffic interchanges to accommodate the growing travel demand between the East Valley and Central Phoenix. MAG proposes amending the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for \$300,000 to provide for the Southeast Corridor Major Investment Study. On March 10, 2010, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of the amendment to the FY 2010 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

3D. Selection of Caliper Corporation as Consultant for 2010 Phase I Inner Loop Traffic Operations Model Development

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the selection of the Caliper Corporation to conduct 2010 Phase I of the Inner Loop Traffic Operations Model for an amount not to exceed \$500,000. The fiscal year (FY) 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2009, includes \$500,000 to conduct Phase I of the 2010 Inner Loop Traffic Operations Model Development. This is a multi-year/multi-phase project and at MAG's discretion, the selected consultant may also be retained to complete additional phases of the project. Future phases of the project will be subject of separate contracts to be authorized at a future date by MAG. The Request for Proposals was advertised on December 10, 2009. The eight proposals received were reviewed by a multi-agency proposal evaluation team consisting of MAG member agencies and MAG staff. On February 23, 2010, the proposal evaluation team recommended to MAG the selection of Caliper Corporation to conduct phase I of the project in an amount not to exceed \$500,000. On March 10, 2010, the MAG Management Committee recommended approval of Caliper Corporation as consultant for 2010 Phase 1 Inner Loop Traffic Operations Model Development.

3E. Assistance to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality for Soil Sample Analyses

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the amendment to the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to provide the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality with \$21,500 to contract with Arizona State University to conduct analyses of soil samples as part of a Data Collection Plan to Evaluate and Identify Sources and Unique Geographic and Meteorological Conditions Contributing to Exceedances of the PM-10 Standard at the West 43rd Avenue Monitor, if necessary. MAG is working with the Maricopa County Air Quality Department and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to implement the Data Collection Plan to Evaluate and Identify Sources and Unique Geographic and Meteorological Conditions Contributing to Exceedances of the PM-10 Standard at the West 43rd Avenue Monitor. As part of this effort, up to nineteen soil samples may need to be analyzed to determine the types of soils that have the highest potential to create PM-10 emissions. ADEQ has a contract with Arizona State University that could be used to perform the analyses, but ADEQ does not have the \$21,500 needed to fund the project. Federal transportation funds would be available for this purpose. The Environmental Protection Agency has indicated they are seeking funding for field studies in the Data Collection Plan, but to date, this funding has not been approved. On March 10, 2010, the MAG Management Committee recommended amending the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to provide ADEQ with \$21,500 to contract with Arizona State University to conduct analyses of soil samples.

3F. Amendment to the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Provide Additional Funding to the City of Avondale Park And Ride Site Selection Study

The Regional Council Executive Committee, by consent, approved the amendment to the FY 2010 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to add \$10,000 to the Avondale Park and Ride Site Selection Study to perform an Environmental Analysis / Categorical Exclusion (CE) for one additional site. At the June 15, 2009 Executive Committee meeting, the committee approved an amendment to the FY 2009 MAG Unified Planning and Work Program and Annual Budget to include \$200,000 to support a Park and Ride Site Selection Study for the City of Avondale and to include \$150,000 for a Transit Circulator Study. In December 2009, MAG commenced work on the \$200,000 Avondale Park And Ride Site Selection Study. The original scope of the six month study was to assist Avondale in determining a preferred Transit Center site to serve local and regional bus connections. In the first three months of the study, Avondale, the Consultant, and MAG staff have agreed that it would be desirable to focus less on a single specific site, and to instead review two sites concurrently to explore different design and layout options. To accomplish this additional work, an additional amount of \$10,000 is requested. These funds will be used to perform an Environmental Analysis / Categorical Exclusion (CE) for one additional site. The additional CE will permit City of Avondale to make a more informed decision on the preferred site for their Transit Center. The total contract amount will be revised to \$210,000. MAG federal funds assigned to planning will be used for this purpose.

The Executive Committee took the agenda items out of order. Chair Neely suggested that the Executive Committee go into executive session to discuss agenda item #9 Executive Director's Annual Performance Evaluation. Mayor Hallman moved that the Executive Committee go into executive session. Mayor Cavanaugh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Chair Neely left the meeting at approximately 1:00 p.m.

The regular session of the Executive Committee reconvened at 1:42. Mayor Hallman took the agenda items in order and moved to agenda item number 4-Development of the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget.

4. Development of the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget

Dennis Smith, Executive Director, stated that this item is on the agenda for information only and suggested that an update on the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget be deferred until next month. The Executive Committee agreed to defer this item until April's meeting.

Mayor Schoaf left the meeting at approximately 1:44.

5. Approval of Transit Planning Agreement and Discussion of Potential Legislation

Mayor Hallman asked if there were any questions on this agenda item. There were no questions. Mayor Hallman stated that he had one correction on the MOU. He noted that on page 6 under the recommendations, item number two, sub-item number three should read "3) review through the

MAG committee process, with final approval of the LPA by the MAG Regional Council for inclusion into and conformity with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).”

Mayor Smith moved to approve the transit planning agreement (MOU) as amended and to forward the MOU to the Federal Transit Administration and include the MOU in the FY 2011 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Mayor Cavanaugh seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hallman asked if there were any comments on the potential legislation. Mr. Smith noted that staff is working on scheduling a meeting with Representative Biggs.

6. Update on the Sun Corridor Joint Planning Advisory Council Staff Meeting

The Executive Committee agreed to defer agenda item number 6 until the April meeting.

7. Discussion Regarding Metropolitan Area Planning Boundary

The Executive Committee agreed to defer agenda item number 7 until the April meeting.

8. Compensation and Benefits Survey

\_\_\_\_ Mayor Hallman stated that staff has provided a salary and compensation survey. He noted that this item does not require a motion because it is within the Executive Director’s authority to make adjustments to salaries, before June 30th, that he believes appropriate and to come forward with budget recommendations for next year regarding salaries. Mr. Smith noted that the recommendation would be the percentage put into the budget for salaries. Mayor Hallman asked what the recommended percentage would be for the budget for salaries. Mr. Smith replied that it would be five percent. Mayor Smith asked if that five percent is across the board. Mr. Smith replied that would be five percent in the budget line item for salaries. Mr. Smith indicated that individual salary increases are performance based. Mayor Hallman asked if there were any further comments. There were none.

9. Executive Director’s Annual Performance Evaluation

Mayor Hallman commented that the Executive Director has not received an increase in compensation for a couple of years. Mayor Hallman commented that we are on very difficult times and that various member cities are facing difficult issues. He noted that Mr. Smith has forgone opportunities for increases in his salary in light of budget constraints, but has been very effective at balancing and maintaining MAG and MAG staff in a particularly good financial position.

Mayor Hallman stated that the Executive Committee proposed that rather than a typical annual increase, the notion is that Mr. Smith will be provided an increase in base salary of 2.7 percent and a 3.1 percent contribution in deferred compensation effective January 1, 2010. Mayor Hallman noted that Mr. Smith has a continuing long performance with MAG at a high level. He noted that there has been extraordinary pressure on executive director’s salaries for the regional agencies, and the increase that has occurred with Valley Metro Rail and the salaries established with RPTA, this

reflects that MAG is an essential agency and Mr. Smith's work has been extraordinary. Mr. Hallman continued that although the Executive Committee cannot, at this time, provide the kind of compensation that brings Mr. Smith to the level of the other agencies, that his activity is greatly appreciated.

Mayor Hallman requested a motion to approve an increase in the executive director's base salary of 2.7 percent and a 3.1 percent contribution in deferred compensation effective January 1, 2010. Mayor Cavanaugh moved to approve. Mayor Smith seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

10. Request for Future Agenda Items

Mayor Hallman asked if there were any requests for future agenda items other than items number six and seven. There were none.

11. Comments from the Committee

Mayor Hallman asked if there were any comments for the committee members. There were none.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Lopez-Rogers moved to adjourn the Executive Committee meeting. Mayor Cavanaugh seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. There being no further business, the Executive Committee adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary